

**AMENDMENT TO THE SPECIFICATION**

Please insert the following paragraph at page 1, line 2 of the specification.

This patent application is a continuation-in-part of co-pending U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 10/187,761, filed on 02 July 2002, entitled "Strand-Reinforced Composite Material," and naming Cristian M. Neculescu and Peiguang Zhou as inventors.